



MACAO
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL &
AWARDS

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報®
Times

SUPPLEMENT FRI 25.11.2016

I Int'l Film Festival The opening

SHOWING INSIDE

The Competing Films I

The Opening Film 'Polina'

The Jurors

The Program

The inaugural International Film Festival & Awards Macao ("IFFAM") will launch in December with a selection of Asian and international feature films.

The festival – which features 12 competition films, three gala films and two "Special Presentation" films – opens December 8 with the Asian premiere of *Polina* (*Polina, Danser Sa Vie*).

IFFAM has lined up three showcases: Hidden Dragons, nine contemporary Asian films; Crossfire (Retrospective), genre favourites curated by 12 Asian directors; and the Best of Fest Panorama, the Asian or world premieres of nine international films. There will also be a special screening of three films starring Gwei Lun-Mei, this year's Actress in Focus.

A five-man jury will preside over IFFAM's official film competition. The winners will be announced at a gala on December 13, where they will receive trophies crafted by Oscar-winning production designer Mr Dante Ferretti.

The IFFAM Industry Hub will also host the Crouching Tigers Project Lab from December 9 to 11. Participating filmmakers will join workshops and meet potential investors and distributors.

Organizing Committee President and Acting Festival Director Ms Helena Senna Fernandes – taking over from celebrated Italian director, movie critic and festival curator Mr Marco Müller – said the festival will provide industry professionals with opportunities for creative and cultural exchange.

IFFAM will run from December 8 to 13.

And the Award goes to

Twelve feature films of a variety of topics and origins are in competition for the top IFFAM Award. They will be shown in Macau venues - from December 9 to 12 - as Asian or international premieres. In this first supplement, MDT presents the first six competing movies, by alphabetic order while the second installment will be published on Monday, November 28



150 Milligrams

French medical thriller *150 Milligrams (La Fille de Brest)* is based on the true story of lung specialist Irene Frachon, who connects a series of suspicious deaths to the consumption of the state-approved diabetes drug Mediator. The film follows Frachon as she investigates the case and clashes with France's pharmaceutical giants. First screened as a Special Presentation at the 2016 Toronto Film Festival, *150 Milligrams* went on to open the San Sebastian Film Festival in northern Spain before coming to Macau for its Asian premiere at IFFAM.

150 Milligrams is directed by Emmanuelle Bercot, a Parisian actress, film director and screenwriter. Bercot won the Jury Prize at the 1997 Cannes Film Festival for her short film *The Holiday*, and made headlines again when her first feature film *Clément* was screened in the Un Certain Regard section at Cannes in 2001. Her 2013 film *On My Way* premiered in competition at the 63rd Berlin International Film Festival, followed by 2015 Cannes opener *Standing Tall*. That year, Bercot also won Best Actress for her role in *Maiwenn Le Besco's Mon roi*.

The film stars Sidse Babbett Knudsen, star of Danish television series *Borgen*, who has gone on to act in U.S. television series (*Westworld*) and films (*Inferno*). Her prolific co-star Benoît Magimel has starred in films such as *The Piano Teacher* (2000) and *La Tête haute* (2015), for which he won Best Actor at the Cannes and Cabourg Film Festivals, respectively.



Elon Doesn't Believe In Death

When his wife vanishes, the titular protagonist of Portuguese-language film *Elon Doesn't Believe in Death (Elon Não Acredita na Morte)* embarks on a quest to bring her home. Elon seeks out his wife's friends, family and colleagues - even visiting police stations, hospitals and morgues - to no avail. Driven to the edge of sanity, Elon finds himself on a journey through the darkest parts of the city.

Brazilian-born writer and director Ricardo Alves Jr. has had his works screened at festivals in Cannes, Rotterdam, Locarno, Oberhausen, Bafici and Santa Maria da Feira, as well as museums in Paris and Madrid. Alves received Best Director awards at the Brazilian Film Festivals in 2007 and 2013 for *Invitation to Dine with Comrade Stalin* and *Tremor*, respectively. *Elon Doesn't Believe in Death* is his feature film debut.

The film stars Rômulo Braga, an actor and writer, and Clara Choveaux. They are joined by Lourenço Mutarelli, a comic book artist and actor who came to fame in the 1980s and 1990s.



Free Fire

Free Fire is a 2016 British action-comedy set in the late 1970s, adapted from a screenplay by Ben Wheatley and his wife Amy Jump. A young woman named Justine brokers an arms deal between two Irishmen and a criminal gang - but it quickly escalates into a full-scale shootout. The film premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival in September 2016, closed the 2016 BFI London Film Festival, and will have its Asian premiere at Macau's inaugural IFFAM.

English director Ben Wheatley has worked in feature films, television series and advertisements. Born in Essex, Wheatley began as a short film maker and animator before moving his work online, uploading more than a hundred short animations on a site he called "Mr and Mrs Wheatley". In 2009, he directed feature film *Down Terrace*, which won prizes at film festivals in the U.S. and London. His third film, *Sightseers*, was chosen for the Directors' Fortnight section of the 2012 Cannes Film Festival. Wheatley's most recent work is *High Rise*, a 2016 adaptation of J.G. Ballard's novel of the same name.

Free Fire's leading lady is acclaimed American actress Brie Larson, whose breakout role in *Room* (2015) netted her an Academy Award for Best Actress. Alongside her is South African actor, producer and director Sharlto Copley, who has worked on several short films that appeared at the Cannes Film Festival. Copley also acted in *District 9*, *Elysium* and *Chappie*.



Director
Producers
Cast

Emmanuelle Bercot
Carole Scotta, Caroline Benjo
Sidse Babbett Knudsen,
Benoît Magimel

Scriptwriters
Cinematographer
Editor
Production Designer
Sound

Séverine Bosschem,
Emmanuelle Bercot
Guillaume Schiffman
Julien Leloup
Eric Barboza
Pierre André,
Jérôme Chenevoy,
Séverin Favriau,
Stéphane Thiebaut
Martin Wheeler
Haut et Court
Wild Bunch



Director
Producers
Co-Producers
Cast

Ricardo Alves Jr.
Thiago Maçêdo Correia,
Ricardo Alves Jr.
Michael Wahrmann,
Silvia Cruz, Julia Alves
Rômulo Braga, Clara Choveaux,
Lourenço Mutarelli,
Silvana Stein, Germano Melo
Ricardo Alves Jr., João Salaviza,
Diego Hoefel, Germano Melo
Matheus Rocha

Scriptwriters
Cinematographer
Editors
Art Director
Sound
Music
Production
Distributor

Michael Wahrmann,
Frederico Benevides
Diogo Hayashi
Pablo Lamar
Daniel Saavedra
Entre Filmes, Sancho Filmes,
Punta Colorada de Cinema
Vitrine Filmes (Brazil)

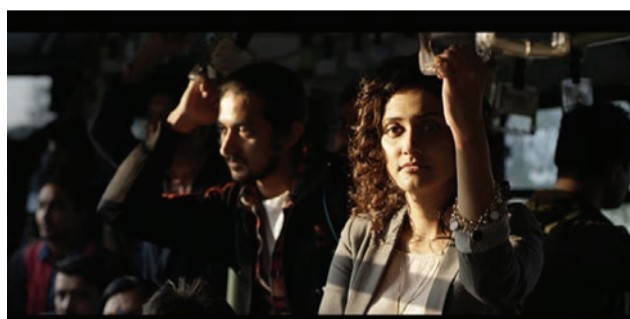
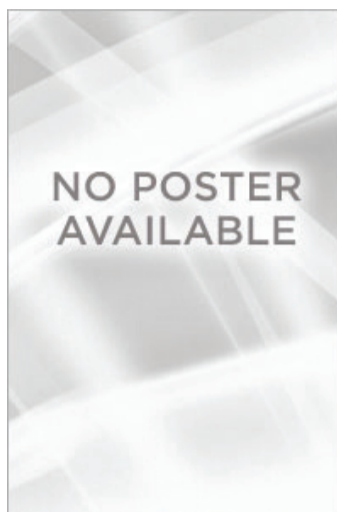


Director
Cast

Ben Wheatley
Sharlto Copley,
Armie Hammer, Brie Larson,
Cillian Murphy, Jack Reynor
Amy Jump, Ben Wheatley
Laurie Rose
Ben Wheatley, Amy Jump
Paul Frost
Geoff Barrow, Ben Salisbury
Rook Films
Sony Pictures Worldwide
Acquisitions (Non-US)

Scriptwriters
Cinematographer
Editors
Art Director
Music
Production
World Sales

THE COMPETING FILMS I



Gurgaon

Hindi noir thriller *Gurgaon*, which won the fiction award at the National Film Development Corporation's Film Bazaar in Goa, stars Akshay Oberoi as poor farmer Kehri Singh, whose luck changes for the worse when he buries his daughter alive. When Kehri adopts a baby girl as atonement, his son Nikki begins to resent being shunted to the side - and sets in motion a chain of events that forces his father to face the past.

Gurgaon is the directorial debut of award-winning Indian cinematographer Shanker Raman, whose cinematographic work has been featured on 15 films and documentaries to date. He has also written three screenplays, including *Gurgaon*.

Gurgaon stars Akshay Oberoi, a Hindi film actor of Punjabi origin, and Mumbai-born film and television actress Ragini Khanna. Oberoi studied acting in the U.S. before moving back to India to join the theatre. Khanna has hosted an assortment of reality shows, and made her Bollywood debut in 2011.

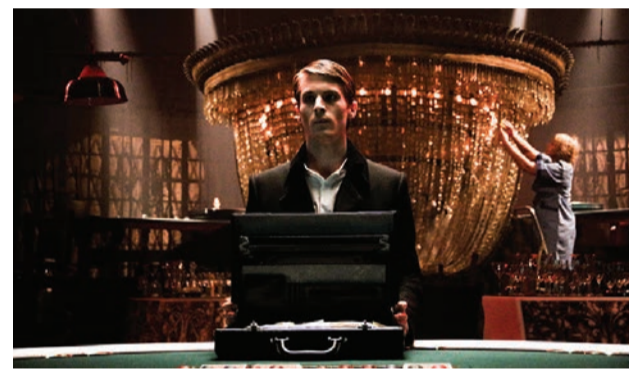


Hide and Seek

Mainland China's *Hide and Seek* tells the story of Zhang Jiawei, a café owner who lives with his family in an affluent neighbourhood. Zhang suffers from obsessive-compulsive disorder, and his life is thrown into disarray when he gets a phone call about his estranged brother, who has gone missing. Meanwhile, Zhang's wife and daughter encounter a stalker - forcing Zhang to balance the search for his long-lost brother with the well-being of his immediate family.

Born in Tianjin City, China, director and writer Liu Jie is best known for the films *Judge* - which won awards at the Deauville Asian Film Festival and the Golden Horse Film Festival, among others - and *De Lan*, which was named Best Film at the Shanghai International Film Festival.

The film stars Wallace Huo Chien-hwa, a Taiwanese actor, singer and producer whose career is based in mainland China. Alongside him is Amanda Qin Hailu, a mainland Chinese actress, screenwriter and singer who has won Best Actress at the Golden Horse Film Festival, Hong Kong Film Critics Society Awards and the Golden Bauhinia Awards.

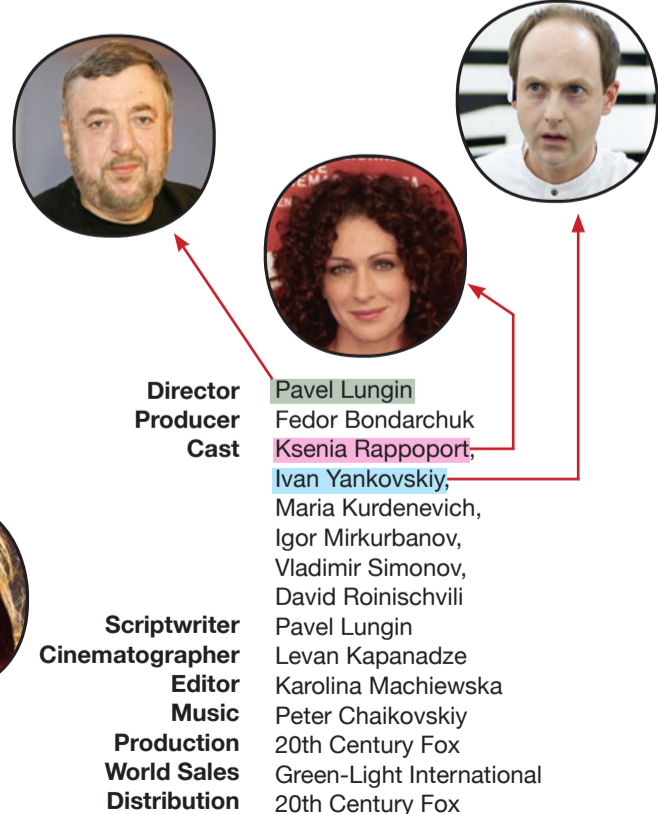
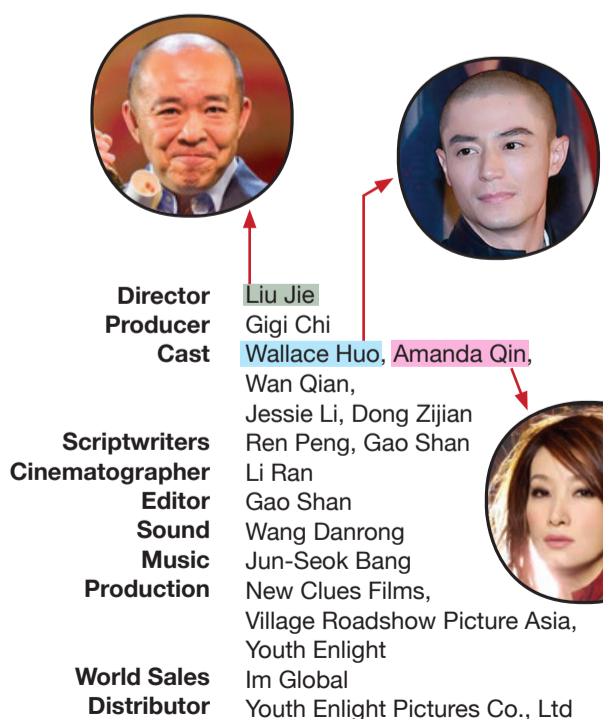
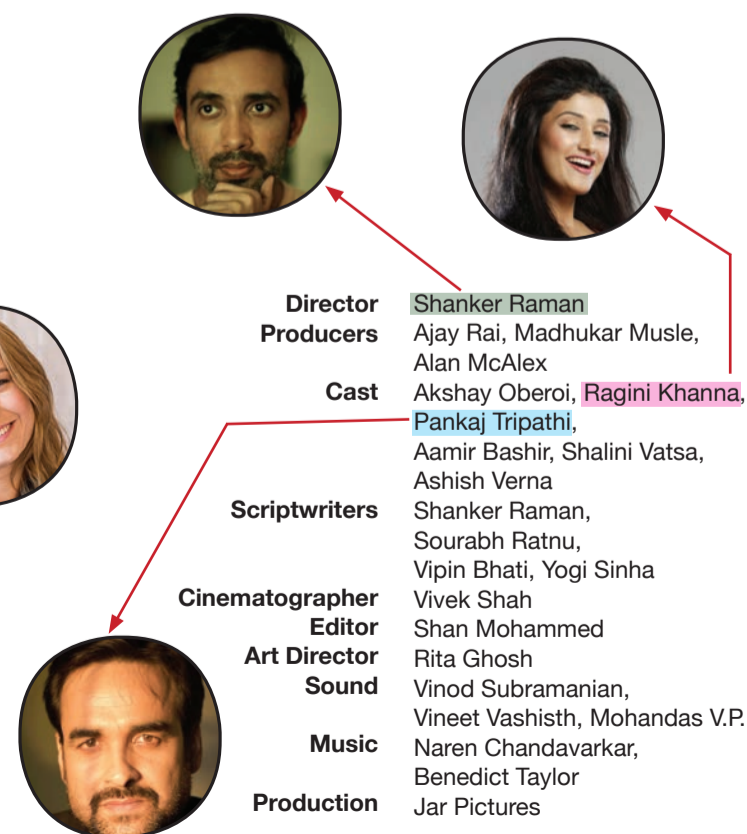


Queen of Spades

Russian-Italian production *Queen of Spades* stars Ivan Yankovskiy as Andrei, a young tenor with dreams of fame and fortune. When renowned European songstress Sophie Mayer visits Andrei's opera to stage 'Queen of Spades', Andrei begins gambling with her at the casino in a bid to win a role in her adaptation - with dire consequences.

Russian director and Cannes veteran Pavel Lungin ("*Taxi Blues*," "*Luna Park*," "*The Wedding*") has worked on award-winning films that played at international festivals in Cannes, Venice and Moscow. He was named a People's Artist of Russia in 2008.

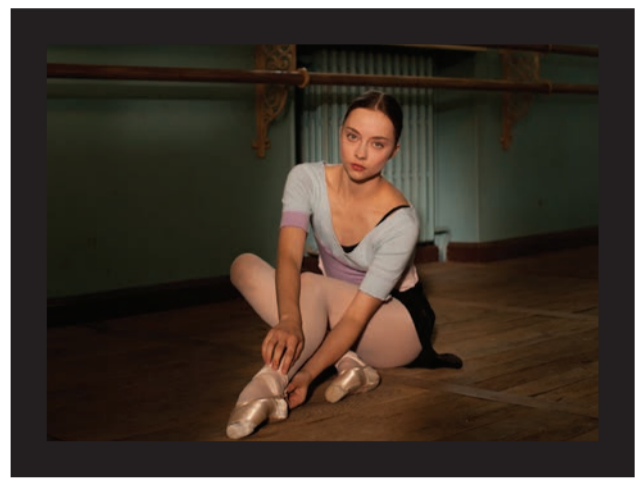
Born in St. Petersburg, Kseniya Rappoport is a Russian actress famed for her work in *The Seagull*, *Uncle Vanja* and Golden Lion-nominated *La doppia ora*, for which she won Best Actress at the 66th Venice Film Festival. Moscow-born leading man Ivan Yankovskiy is best known for *Rag Union*, *Come Look at Me* and *Bez granits*.



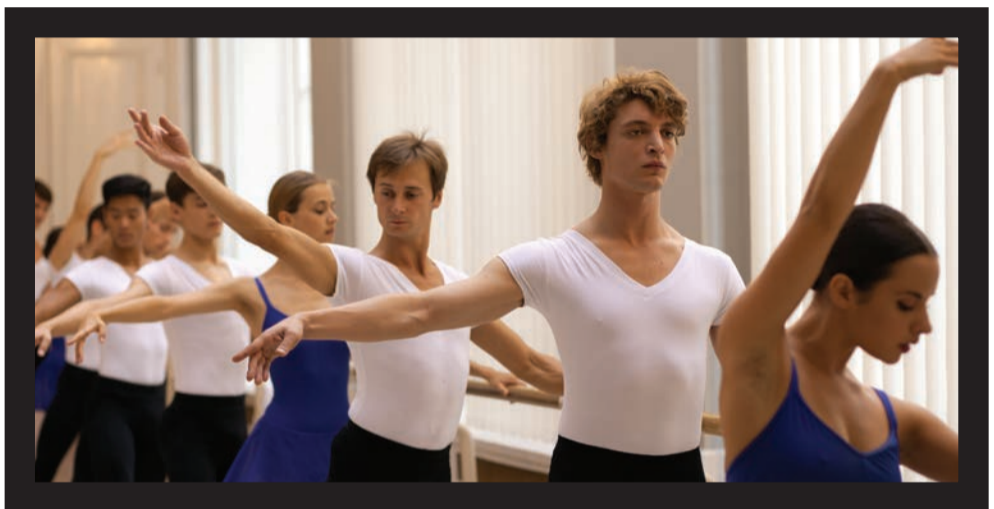
POLINA (POLINA, DANSEUR SA VIE) tells the story of a gifted young Russian ballerina who is preparing for induction into Moscow's prestigious Bolchoï Ballet after years of training. The titular heroine's world is thrown into disarray when she discovers modern dance, which inspires her to move to France and start a new life.

A French-U.S. film adaptation of Bastien Vivès' graphic novel, Polina is directed by Valérie Müller, who co-wrote the script, and Angelin Preljocaj, an award-winning director and choreographer trained in classical ballet and contemporary dance. Preljocaj's work has been featured in the repertoires of La Scala of Milan, the New York City Ballet and the Paris Opera Ballet. He is currently artistic director of the Ballet Preljocaj in Aix-en-Provence.

The film stars Anastasia Shevtzova, Niels Schneider, Jérémie Belingard, Aleksei Guskov and Juliette Binoche. The majority of the main cast are trained dancers: Shevtzova is a graduate of the Vaganova Academy of Russian Ballet, while Belingard and Schneider are dancers at the Paris Opera. Binoche is an award-winning actress who has appeared in more than 60 feature films and starred in modern dance productions. Guskov, who plays Polina's strict tutor, is a veteran actor and producer.



Opening film DANCING HER LIFE

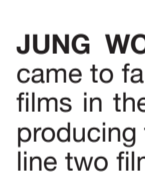


	08-12 Thu (四)	09-12 Fri (五)	10-12 Sat (六)	11-12 Sun (日)	12-12 Mon (一)
OPENING FILM	Polina 翩翩人生波瀾 (CC 08:30pm)				
COMPETITION	150 Milligrams 驚人當自強 (CC 04:00pm)				
	Elon Doesn't Believe in Death 念念不忘 (CC 09:30pm)				
	Free Fire 走火交易 (CC 07:00pm)				
	Gurgaon 罪盡古爾岡 (CC 07:00pm)				
	Hide and Seek 捉迷藏 (CC 09:30pm)				
	Queen of Spades 黑桃皇后 (MT 07:00pm)				
	Saint George 聖佐治 (MT 10:00pm)				
	Shining Moment 燦爛這一刻 (MT 04:00pm)				
	Sisterhood 姊妹 (MT 07:30pm)				
	Survival Family 求生走佬大家庭 (MT 10:00pm)				
Trespass Against Us 血濺於罪 (CC 04:30pm)					
The Winter 冬日將至 (MT 05:00pm)					
GALA	The Mile Song - Hong Kong Capicola 上海之聲 香港狂熱曲 (VT 08:00pm)				
Pandora 潘朵拉 (UA 08:30pm)					
Immortal Story 海上花 (UA 08:30pm)					
PROFESSIONAL	The Silesian Gate 西里西亞門 (UA 08:00pm)				
Macao - The Backside of the Sea 濠江鏡海 (UA 08:00pm)					
Our Seventeen 那一年，我十七 (MT 06:30pm)					
1974 (UA 09:30pm)					
Antiporno 不是色情電影 (UA 09:30pm)					
Daguerrotype 攝拍勾魂 (UA 07:30pm)					
The Girl with All The Gifts 劇世魔劫 (MT 09:00pm)					
The Housemaid 侍女 (MT 11:30pm)					
Seclusion 嚴離修行 (UA 04:30pm)					
Toro 絕路反擊 (MT 09:30pm)					
Terror 5 殘廢癲狂 (MT 11:30pm)					
BEST OF FEST PANORAMA	The Future Perfect 未來完成式 (UA 08:30pm)				
Goodbye Berlin 出走小柏林 (MT 05:00pm)					
Indignation (CC 09:30pm)					
Jackie 第一夫人：精琪蓮甘嘉蓮 (UA 10:00pm)					
Lady Macbeth 馬克白夫人 (CC 07:00pm)					
Manchester by the Sea 情繫海邊之城 (CC 07:00pm)					
Neruda 流亡詩人魯魯達 (MT 07:00pm)					
Personal Shopper (CC 09:30pm)					
Toni Erdmann 爸不疼妳快樂 (CC 08:30pm)					
CROSSFIRE	A Cop 龍血神探 (UA 07:30pm)				
Diabolique 浴室情殺案 (UA 04:00pm)					
Don't Look Now 威尼斯驚魂 (UA 06:30pm)					
Eyes Without a Face 無臉之眼 (UA 09:00pm)					
Fantomas Unleashed 電光石火 (UA 06:00pm)					
The Good, the Bad and the Ugly 獨行俠決鬥地獄門 (CC 03:00pm)					
The Great Silence 雪海深仇 (CC 05:00pm)					
Horror of Dracula 恐怖德古拉 (UA 09:00pm)					
Rififi 悍匪大決戰 (UA 05:30pm)					
The Umbrellas of Cherbourg 秋水伊人 (CC 03:00pm)					
The Vagabond 流浪者 (UA 05:00pm)					
Walter Defends Sarajevo 瓦爾特保衛薩拉熱窩 (CC 07:30pm)					
PROFESSIONAL	Forêt Debussy 德布西森林 (UA 08:30pm)				
Secret 不能說的秘密 (UA 08:00pm)					
The Flying Swords of Dragon Gate 龍門飛甲 (UA 09:30pm)					

JURY MEMBERS



SHEKHAR KAPUR (JURY PRESIDENT): AWARD-WINNING INDIAN DIRECTOR AND PRODUCER who debuted in 1980s Bollywood. He attained global recognition in the 1990s for biopics of Phoolan Devi and Queen Elizabeth Tudor; the latter was nominated for multiple Academy Awards.



JUNG WOO-SUNG: SOUTH KOREAN ACTOR who came to fame in the late 1990s and starred in a slew of films in the 2000s and 2010s. He began directing and producing this year. As an actor, Jung is slated to headline two films in 2017.



STANLEY KWAN: ACCLAIMED HONG KONG DIRECTOR AND PRODUCER whose films have won multiple awards at film festivals from Taiwan to Berlin.



ATHINA RACHEL TSANGARI: GREEK FILMMAKER, PRODUCER AND PROJECTION DESIGNER who worked on the ceremonies of the 2004 Olympic Games. She runs her own production and post-production studio in Athens.



MAKIKO WATANABE: CELEBRATED TOKYO-BORN ACTRESS AND WRITER who has appeared in more than 60 films since 1996, including multiple Cannes Film Festival features.

RULES & REGULATIONS

- IFFAM's Official Selection of films was curated by Acting Festival Director Helena Senna Fernandes, a Selection Committee and a team of international consultants, which was set up initially by Marco Mueller.
- A international jury of five to seven industry leaders decides award recipients across seven categories.
- There will be no joint winners and no submission can receive more than one award.
- The Festival Director will recommend nominees for the Career Achievement award to the Organizing Committee.
- All IFFAM submissions must display the Festival logo and mention any prizes received.
- All submissions must be screened with English or Chinese subtitles.